Identify each of the following aquatic ecosystems as freshwater (F) or marine (M).

1. Ocean
2. Lake
3. River
4. Swamp
5. Coral reef
6. Estuary

Pick one aquatic ecosystem and describe one threat, one plant, and one animal.

1. Lakes and ponds
2. Freshwater wetlands
3. Rivers
4. Coastal wetlands
5. Coral reefs
6. Oceans

Listed below are the 5 statements about aquatic ecosystems. Choose the term listed in parentheses that will correctly complete the sentence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. | Because dolphins swim freely in the ocean, they are considered to be (**nekton, plankton**). |
| 2. | (**Benthos, Nekton**) are bottom-dwelling organisms, such as worms. |
| 3. | Freshwater wetlands that are dominated by trees are (**marshes, swamps**). |
| 4. | As a river flows down a mountain, it becomes warmer, wider, and (**slower, faster**). |
| 5. | Coral reefs are primarily made of (**plankton, limestone**). |

Match each word with the correct description.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | bottom of a pond or lake | a. | barrier island |
| 2. | an area where fresh and salt water mix | b. | benthic zone |
| 3. | nutrient-rich, near shore area of lake with abundant light and life | c. | littoral zone |
| 4. | long, thin islands that typically run parallel to shore | d. | eutrophication |
| 5. | increase in the amount of nutrients in an aquatic ecosystem | e. | estuary |

Match the threat with the ecosystem.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | overfishing | a. | lakes and ponds |
| 2. | eutrophication (too many nutrients cause algal blooms) | b. | freshwater wetlands |
| 3. | removal of sand | c. | oceans |
| 4. | draining, clearing, and filling for farms and development | d. | coral reefs |
| 5. | changes in temperature and breakage due to boats and divers | e. | rocky and sandy shores |